SELECT CASES

IN

PHYSIC,

Which have been treated at the

WATERS of AIX LA CHAPELLE.

Wherein are ſhewn

The particular Virtues of thoſe famous Sulphureous Waters, in the Caſes which are generally ſent hither for Relief.

The ill Effects which are commonly produecd thereby, when they are improperly applied.

AND

Their great Virtues in diſſolving Gouty Swellings and Tumours; in which Caſes they were not heretofore ordered.

The whole deſigned as

An APPENDIX to the TREATISE on thoſe WATERS lately publiſhed.

By J. WILLIAMS, M. D.

LONDON,
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MDCCLXXIV.

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PHYSIC,

Which have been treated at the

WATERS of AIX LA CHAPELLE.

BOOKS written by Doctor WILLIAMS, and ſold by T. BECKET, the Corner of the Adelphi, Strand.

I. A Treatiſe on the Medicinal Virtues of the Waters of Aix la Chapelle and Borſet. The whole drawn from a chain of phyſical reaſoning upon the nature and effects of theſe famous Waters; and ſupported with a hiſtory of the particular caſes wherein they have, and wherein they have not, been beneficial. To which are added, by way of introduction, a chemical analyſis of the Waters, from a number of experiments made upon the ſpot. Price 4s. ſewed.

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SELECT CASES

IN

PHYSIC, &c.

IN my Treatiſe upon the Medicinal virtues of the Waters of Aix la Chapelle, I promiſed the public, that ſo long as I reſided in this place, I would lay before them, from time to time, an account of the caſes which have been treated at thoſe waters, and of their particular effects in ſuch caſes; to the end that their medicinal virtues may be properly aſcertained by experience, as well as by theory; and I was the more particularly prompted to undertake this taſk, becauſe it has never yet been undertaken by any other

phyſician ſince thoſe waters have been diſcovered; and alſo becauſe thoſe waters are daily adminiſtered in diſorders wherein they can give no relief, but inevitably the contrary, and are forbid to be uſed in other diſorders, eſpecially in particular gouty caſes, wherein I have lately ordered them with the greateſt ſucceſs.

I have been much threatened for attempting to lay a work of this kind before the public, by thoſe who, like the artificers that made the ſilver ſhrines for the Diana of the Epheſians, thought their craft was in danger; but, regardleſs of ſuch menaces, I ſhall continue to lay open the particular facts, as they appear from repeated experience, and leave mankind to judge for themſelves.

CASE

CASE I.

Mr. O——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a good conſtitution, but after having been many years in the Weſt Indies, when he returned into Europe, although he was not then above forty years of age, he found himſelf ſo extremely weakened and relaxed, that it was with difficulty he could perform the natural exerciſes of the body proper for health. Soon after he was attacked with a violent rheumatiſm, attended with ſuch a viſcidity of the juices, that he almoſt loſt the uſe of his limbs. Various medicines, and thoſe judiciouſly applied, were uſed for his relief in England, but without the effect that could be wiſhed; and he was, in the year 1772, ſent to Aix la Chapelle, to try the effects of thoſe waters in his caſe: and,

having conſulted a phyſician of this place, he was ordered, after having taken ſome doſes of purging ſalts, to begin with drinking four glaſſes of the water of one of the inferior ſources every day. But, to the aſtoniſhment of his phyſician and of himſelf, this ſmall quantity of the water brought on a remitting fever. The water was now omitted, and he was vomitted and purged ſeveral times, from a ſuppoſition that the fever was occaſioned by bile and acrid humours on the ſtomach and bowels, which were put in motion by the water; and after fifteen days was ordered to begin the waters again; but a fever, rather more violent than before, was the conſequence. Hereupon a courſe of the teſtaceous powders, with a doſe of magneſia alba every three or four days, to give three or four ſtools, and a mix-

a mixture, compoſed chiefly of the juice of the antiſcorbutic herbs, were ordered, and continued for three weeks; and afterwards a courſe of the water was begun again; but three glaſſes only brought on the fever with more violence than ever. He was now ordered ſmall doſes of James's powders, with the warm bath, without the internal uſe of the water: the powders ſeemed to relieve his fever for two or three days; but as ſoon as he began to bathe in theſe ſulphureous waters, it returned with more violence than ever.

I was now called in to his aſſiſtance, and immediately perceived that his nerves and fibres were in ſuch a weak and relaxed ſtate, that he had not ſtrength enough to ſupport the irritation and ſudden rarefaction of the juices, occaſioned by theſe ſul-

phureous waters; and, therefore, I ordered him a mixture, compoſed of the volatile alkaline ſalt, neutralized with juice of lemons; of the decoction and of the concentrated tincture of the Peruvian bark; and of the powder of Ruſſia caſtor, and of valerian: ſo that he took three times a day ſixteen grains of the neutralized volatile ſalt, two ounces of the decoction, and one drachm of the tincture of the bark, ſix grains of caſtor, and ſix of valerian, for a doſe. This was continued for fifteen days; and it was ſurpriſing to ſee how much he was ſtrengthened and relieved by this medicine alone. Afterwards I ordered him to begin again with drinking the water of the great ſource, to twenty ounces every day, whereby he was much relieved, and no ill effects whatever followed: and after ten days he began

to

to uſe the common baths, with the douche, occaſionally, upon thoſe parts which were moſt affected with the rheumatiſm, and the vapour-bath every third or fourth day: and, by continuing this courſe for ſix weeks, he was entirely cured of his rheumatiſm, and his limbs became again as pliable as ever. However, to finiſh his cure, and to brace up his relaxed fibres, the foregoing mixture was ordered again for fifteen or ſixteen days, and he returned to England in a very good ſtate of health.

C A S E II.

Mr. J——, an Engliſh gentleman, in the thirty-ſixth year of his age, naturally of a weak and lax fibre, who, by living too freely with the fair-ſex, found his conſtitution extremely ſhattered by mercurial medicines, and ſtill the remains of the

venereal diſeaſe appearing in different parts of his body: one of his teſticles was ſwelled to a very great degree, with a hardneſs which nearly approached to a ſchirrhoſity; the glands likewiſe about his neck and throat were very much ſwelled, and venereal ulcers broke out from time to time in his mouth, and tumors upon his head and other parts of his body: add to theſe a low quick pulſe, and frequently a remitting fever. He was not in a ſituation to undergo a ſalivation, and ſmall doſes of mercury ſeemed only to irritate his diſorder. In this ſituation he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle; and, having conſulted a phyſician of this place, he was ordered a purging electary, with the juice of the antiſcorbutic herbs, and to drink three glaſſes of the water every morning. He ſoon found his fever augmented

by

by this treatment, and his body ſo weakened that he was ſcarcely able to walk; and, when he again ſtated his caſe to his phyſician, he was informed that his weakneſs was occaſioned by acrid humours, which hung upon his ſtomach and bowels, and which were not yet ſufficiently prepared for expulſion.

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and finding him in ſuch a weak and relaxed ſtate, I ordered him to leave off immediately all his former preſcriptions, and to take a mixture compoſed of the volatile alkali, neutralized with the vegetable acid; of the decoction, and of the concentrated tincture of the Peruvian bark; of the powder of Virginia ſnake-root, and of cuckows-pint-root: ſo that he took, three times a day, ſixteen grains of the neutralized volatile ſalt, one ounce and a half of the decoc-

decoction, and one drachm of the concentrated tincture of the bark, with eight grains of the ſnake-root, and ſix of the freſh powdered cuckow-pint-root, for a doſe. He continued this medicine for twelve days; and finding his fever removed, and his body much ſtrengthened, he now began to uſe the vapor-bath, as the moſt powerful means whereby thoſe waters may be taken, and which relaxes the leaſt when prudently uſed; receiving the vapour, through a machine, upon the affected parts only, one hour each time for two days following, and every third day receiving the vapour for twenty minutes upon the whole body: this method he purſued for two months, and continued the uſe of his medicines at the ſame time; and although at times he ſweated powerfully, he did not find that weakneſs and relaxation

tion which others, who uſe the vapor-bath in the common manner, generally find; but, on the contrary, found himſelf every day gathering ſtrength, his ſwellings diſſolving, and his tumours diſappearing; ſo that, at the end of the time before-mentioned, he found his diſorder entirely removed, and his ſtrength and activity conſiderably increaſed: and in this ſituation he left this place.

CASE III.

Mr. R——, an Engliſh gentleman, of thirty years of age, naturally of a delicate conſtitution, and of a lax and irritable fibre, who, after having paſt through ſeveral courſes of mercurial medicines for the venereal diſeaſe, found himſelf in ſuch a weak condition, that he was adviſed to take no more mercury; although one of his teſticles was ſtill ſwelled to a great

great degree, with an almoſt ſchirrhous hardneſs, that reſiſted the force of all the common medicines: he had likewiſe ſwellings in his groins, and about the glands of his throat: and, as I was the firſt phyſician who was conſulted for him in this place, I ordered him immediately to receive the vapor of the water of the great ſource, through a machine, upon the ſwelled parts only, for one hour every day; and, at the ſame time, to take internally, two ounces of the cold infuſion of the bark, and ten grains of the powder of Ruſſia caſtor, three times a day. After he had uſed theſe means for five or ſix days, I was extremely ſurpriſed to find him in a ſalivation; but, from a ſuppoſition that this was occaſioned by ſome mercury, which had lain in the body for ſome time, being again put in motion by the ſulphureous vapor,

vapour, and conſequently could not continue long, I uſed no means to check it, as indeed it was not very violent, but ordered him to continue to receive the vapor as before directed, and likewiſe his medicine. This little ſalivation continued for five or ſix days, and then ceaſed entirely, without any ill effects whatever; but immediately after his ſwellings were perceived to grow ſofter and to decreaſe daily; ſo that, at the end of ſix weeks, he found himſelf free from them, and this without being weakened or relaxed in the leaſt; but, on the contrary, he found himſelf rather ſtronger than before. Hereupon I ordered him to Spa, to take a courſe of the Pouhun and of the Geronſterre waters, for four or five weeks; and afterwards he returned to England in perfect health.

CASE IV.

An Engliſh lord, in the forty-eighth year of his age, who had naturally a weak and lax fibre, and who had extremely ſuffered from repeated attacks of the gout, found himſelf in ſuch a weak and languid ſituation, with a weakneſs of ſtomach, loſs of appetite, and indigeſtion, as made him very unhappy; and, add to theſe, his feet, ancles, and legs, were very much ſwelled and ſtiff, from the gouty matter being thrown thereon by the force of the circulation, there not being ſtrength enough in nature to expel it out of the body by the common evacuations. In this ſituation he came to Spa in the year 1772, and began to drink the Pouhun water; but finding that this water diſagreed with his ſtomach, he came to Aix la Chapelle, and was

ordered

ordered to drink the ſtrong ſulphureous waters of this place;—which at firſt agreed very well with his ſtomach, and he found himſelf relieved thereby; his digeſtion, and his appetite were ſtrengthened. But after he had continued their uſe for four or five weeks, he found very contrary effects therefrom; the ſwellings of his feet and legs were conſiderably increaſed, and his whole body was much relaxed.

I was now conſulted in his caſe, and ordered him to diſcontinue the drinking of theſe ſulphureous hot waters, and to uſe a medicine, compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, of the Peruvian bark, and of the nervous ſimples, much of the ſame nature with that deſcribed in Caſe I. which gave him ſtrength and ſpirits; but the ſwellings of his feet and legs were not in the leaſt diminiſhed thereby.

thereby. Hereupon, although it was in the month of January, and very cold, I ordered him the douche upon his feet and legs, and it was pleaſing to ſee the great and ſudden effects which were produced thereby.

I am thoroughly perſuaded that ten douches in this ſeaſon of the year, will have a better effect, in the ſame caſe, than thirty in the heat of the ſummer, notwithſtanding all the nonſenſe which has been publiſhed here to the contrary; and I am likewiſe perſuaded that the phyſicians who practiſe at Bath in England, muſt have made the ſame obſervation, with regard to the waters of that place.

After this lord had received ſix or ſeven douches, he not only found the ſwellings of his feet and legs conſiderably decreaſed, but thoſe parts were become more pliable and ſtronger;

ſtronger; but when he had uſed twelve douches, he found himſelf attacked with all the ſymptoms which generally precede a ſevere fit of the gout; and, notwithſtanding all I could ſay to the contrary, he made preparations for a three months illneſs. However, after ſix or ſeven days, he ſaw that this was nothing more than ſome remains of the gouty matter, which was moved by the douches, and which in two days more went off by urine; ſo that he was entirely free from it the ninth day. Afterwards he began to uſe the douches again, and at the ſame time he took the medicine before deſcribed internally; and when he had taken three and twenty douches, he found the ſwelling of his feet and ancles entirely removed, and his ſtrength ſo much increaſed, that he could walk without any inconveni-

ence, which he could not do for ten years before; and in this ſituation he left this place.

CASE V.

An Engliſh lady, in the thirty-ſeventh year of her age, naturally of a weak and delicate conſtitution, and of a lax and irritable fibre, was attacked, after being delivered of a dead child ſix years before, with a chain of hyſterical ſymptoms, which reduced her to a ſtate of weakneſs ſcarcely to be conceived, from which however ſhe was relieved; but theſe were ſucceeded by an obſtruction of the menſes, for which various remedies were uſed, at different times, but without any good effect; on the contrary, the irritation which they occaſioned never failed to bring on ſpaſms, and more or leſs of her former diſorder. In this ſituation ſhe was

was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, and was ordered to begin with drinking the waters, and taking ſome purging ſalts; but ſhe found herſelf ſo much diſordered by purſuing this courſe, that, after the third day, ſhe was obliged to leave it off entirely; even two glaſſes of the water brought on her former ſymptoms.

I was now conſulted in her caſe, and immediately ordered her ten grains of the powder of the beſt Ruſſia caſtor, made into a bolus with ſyrup of ſaffron, three times a day: and after ſhe had uſed this medicine for three or four days and her former ſymptoms were thereby alleviated, I ordered her to begin bathing, at firſt only every ſecond day, and to ſtay in the bath a quarter of an hour each time, ſtill continuing her medicine as before; but afterwards, finding that no ill effects followed the uſe of

the bath, ſhe was ordered to bathe every day, and to ſtay in the bath twenty minutes each time. This courſe ſhe continued for four weeks, when ſhe found her obſtructions removed, and her menſes returned again; ſhe found herſelf likewiſe relieved from all her hyſterical ſymptoms, and was much ſtronger than ſhe had been for ſome years before. In this ſituation I ſent her to Spa, to take a gentle courſe of the Pouhun and of the Geronſterre waters; and in ſix weeks after ſhe returned to England in a good ſtate of health.

CASE VI.

Sir —— ——, an Engliſh baronet, about forty-five years of age, naturally of a ſanguine conſtitution, and of an irritable fibre, having had ſeveral ſevere fits of the gout, was tempted, on the approach of a fit, to

conſult a famous practitioner of London, who has lately acquired ſome degree of reputation for removing that terrible diſorder; and was immediately ordered a copious bleeding, and afterwards ſome antiphlogiſtic medicines. Theſe, it is true, gave him immediate eaſe, and in two days removed the gouty ſymptoms entirely, which was then thought to be a happy omen; but ſoon after he found ſuch a heavineſs and languor upon his ſpirits at times, as he had never felt before; and when the next fit of the gout came on he found his whole nervous ſyſtem attacked therewith, particularly his head and ſtomach; and as he had formerly been accuſtomed to have a ſharp fit, which laſted for two or three weeks, and ſo paſſed off by ſome critical diſcharge, this and the ſucceeding fits laſted near three months

each, attended with a long chain of nervous ſymptoms, which were more diſagreeable than the moſt ſevere gouty pain; and terminated without any critical diſcharge, leaving the gouty matter hanging upon the joints of his hands, feet, and knees; which by ſucceeding fits was ſo accumulated, that their motion was in a great meaſure obſtructed, and conſiderable ſwellings were formed thereon: he now found himſelf likewiſe ſo extremely weakened and debilitated, that it was with great difficulty he was able to bear the fatigue of a journey, even in an eaſy carriage. In this ſituation he came to Aix la Chapelle; and as I was conſulted in his caſe, ſeeing how much his conſtitution was weakened and relaxed, and conſequently not in a condition to receive this ſulphureous water internally, I ordered him imme-

immediately a medicine compoſed of the decoction and of the tincture of the Peruvian bark, of the volatile ſalt of amber, of the tincture of valerian, of the powder of Ruſſia caſtor, and of dried orange-peel; ſo that he took one ounce and a half of the decoction, and one drachm of the tincture of the bark, five grains of the volatile ſalt of amber, half a drachm of the tincture of valerian, eight grains of the powder of caſtor, and five of the dried orange-peel for a doſe, three times a day. This medicine ſtrengthened him conſiderably; ſo that, after he had uſed it nine days, he was ordered to receive the douche upon his feet and knees; but he was ſo much agitated thereby that we were obliged to deſiſt from it immediately: but after he had continued his medicine for ten days more, he began it again, and then

found that he was in a ſituation to bear its force; ſo that he continued to receive it for a half hour every day for twenty days ſucceſſively. After he had taken fifteen or ſixteen douches, he perceived that all the gouty ſwellings which were upon his joints were removed, and the parts began to gain ſtrength; but from ſome twitching pains which he felt, from time to time, in the joints of his knees, together with a great degree of weakneſs at intervals, it was perceived that there was ſtill ſome gouty matter hanging upon the nerves and tendons of thoſe joints, but lying ſo very deep among the muſcles, as to be out of the reach even of this penetrating ſulphureous water: therefore I adviſed him to ceaſe the uſe of the water at this time, and to try it again another ſeaſon, as the fever occaſioned by another

other fit of the gout would be more likely to remove this matter than any medicine that could be ordered for him. In this ſituation he left Aix la Chapelle, not ſo effectually reſtored as could be wiſhed, but having his conſtitution much ſtrengthened, his gouty ſwellings entirely removed, and almoſt a free circulation upon the parts; and I believe it will appear obvious to every perſon who has common underſtanding, that the cauſe of his not having the uſe of his limbs completely reſtored was owing to that unhappy check which nature received from the bleeding, &c. when ſhe was about to throw off the gouty matter upon the extreme parts of the body, whereby a great part of that matter fell upon the nerves and tendons of the muſcles, and gave riſe to all the diſagreeable ſymptoms that followed.

CASE

CASE VII.

Monſieur de D——, a Ruſſian gentleman, in the thirty-fifth year of his age, naturally of a cold and phlegmatic conſtitution, and who, for many years had led a very inactive and ſedentary courſe of life, fell into a low weak ſtate, attended with a great coſtiveneſs, a ſwelling of the belly, and at times night ſweats. After having tried in vain all the remedies which are generally ordered in ſuch caſes in Ruſſia, he applied to the profeſſor of phyſic at Leyden, who ordered him a ſmall quantity of a lenitive electary every day, to keep his body open, and gentle exerciſe: theſe, it is true, gave him a temporary relief, but were far from doing any thing towards a cure, although he continued them for four months ſucceſſively; at length he was reduced

duced to ſuch a ſtate that he could not go to ſtool without the aſſiſtance of ſome purging medicine. He now had recourſe to a celebrated practitioner at Paris, who ordered him alſo a purging medicine, not much unlike the former, together with a cooling regimen. Theſe he likewiſe continued for three months, but received no more benefit therefrom than what he had received from his former courſe; and being recommended to a phyſician at Aix la Chapelle, he reſolved to go thither immediately; where he was ordered, it being in the beginning of the ſeaſon 1773, to drink the waters and to bathe; and at the ſame time to continue his purging electary as before, as he could not go to ſtool without it: but the drinking of, and bathing in theſe waters, in his weak ſituation, heated him to ſuch a degree

gree that he could have no reſt, and found himſelf attacked with all the ſymptoms of a low continual fever. Whereupon I was conſulted in his caſe, and perceiving that the cauſe of his diſorder was a great relaxation of the whole nervous ſyſtem, and conſiderable obſtructions in the lymphatic veſſels, whereby the periſtaltic motion of the bowels was ſo much weakened that theſe organs were not in a ſtate to perform their natural functions; I immediately ordered him a medicine compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, and of the bitter infuſion of the London Diſpenſatory, with a tincture of gentian; ſo that he took twenty grains of the former, two ounces of the ſecond, and one drachm of the third for a doſe, three times a day; and at the ſame he drank three ſix-ounce glaſſes of the water of the great

ſource

ſource every morning. After three days he found all his feveriſh ſymptoms diſappear, and he had a regular ſtool every day, and ſoon perceived himſelf to be much altered for the better, without any purging medicine whatever.

He continued this courſe for four weeks, when he perceived by the degree of activity which he gained, and by all his natural evacuations being regularly performed, that his obſtructions were removed; and therefore I ſent him to Spa, to finiſh his cure with a courſe of the waters of the Pouhun and Geronſterre, and the cold-bath: theſe he purſued for ſix weeks, and found himſelf perfectly reſtored to his former health.

C A S E VIII.

The ſon of a merchant of this place, of fifteen years of age, from a con-

contuſion which he received from a fall, felt a violent pain in the lumbar region from ſide to ſide acroſs the loins, which extended on the right ſide into the thigh over the proceſs of the femoris, that continued to increaſe notwithſtanding all the medicines which were ordered for him; and at length the parts affected began to ſwell, the fleſh upon his right leg and thigh was conſiderably reduced, and he loſt, in a great meaſure, their motion: his appetite was likewiſe conſiderably decreaſed, and he had at times feveriſh heats and uneaſineſſes in every part of his body. After he had continued in this way for four months, a contraction was obſerved in the nerves and tendons of his right leg and thigh; and he felt ſuch a violent pain in the parts which were firſt affected, that he could not put his foot to the ground.

In

In this ſituation I was conſulted for him; and, after a gentle doſe of ipecacuanha, I ordered him the douche upon the parts which were firſt affected, for half an hour every day; and at the ſame time fifty drops of the following medicine three times a day:

℞. Vin. antimoniale, ℥j. ß.
Tinct. caſtor. Ruſ. ℥i. M.

It was pleaſing to ſee the good effects which were produced by this courſe in a few days; for before he had taken ten douches, he found the ſwelling upon the parts conſiderably diminiſhed, together with the pain and the feveriſh ſymptoms which accompanied it; and when he had uſed twenty douches he could walk again with a cane; the contraction of his leg and thigh decreaſed daily, and thoſe parts regained their fleſh as before: in fact, after having continued

tinued this method for two months, he found himſelf radically cured.

CASE IX.

Mr. A——, an Engliſh gentleman, about forty-four years of age, naturally of a weak and irritable fibre, who, by living rather too freely in his youthful days, found himſelf ſeized, at the age of thirty-ſix, with a long chain of nervous ſymptoms, from which he was relieved by his phyſician at London; but he ſoon after found himſelf attacked with a kind of flying gout, which ſometimes ſhewed itſelf in one part of the body, and at other times in another; and as he had not ſtrength enough at that time in his conſtitution to throw off the gouty matter upon the extreme parts of the body, nor even to ſupport ſuch medicines as were neceſſary to aſſiſt him therein, his ſituation

ation was extremely disagreeable: at length, having received a contusion, from a fall, upon his thigh, over the process of the femoris, he soon after found the gouty matter fallen upon that part, which began to swell, and to be very painful to him; and notwithstanding all the means which he took to prevent it, this part continued to swell considerably; the flesh upon the leg and thigh began to decrease, and a contraction was observed in the nerves and tendons of those parts.

In this situation I was consulted in his case; and after he had taken two gentle doses of powder of rhubarb, I ordered him to receive the douche upon the affected part, for forty minutes every day; and, at the same time, to take every evening one grain of calomel, and one grain and a half of kermes mineral, being first well rubbed together, and afterwards

made into a pill with honey of roſes; and fifty drops of a mixture, compoſed of ſix parts of the wine of the glaſs of antimony, and four parts of liquid laudanum, in a large draught of ſage and baum tea.

It was pleaſing to ſee the ſudden effects of theſe medicines in this gentleman's caſe: before he had taken ten douches the ſwelling was found to be decreaſed, and the violent pain which he felt in the affected part was removed: the internal medicines produced no other viſible effect than a gentle perſpiration towards the morning.

After he had purſued this courſe for four weeks, the ſwelling upon the part was entirely removed, and the leg and thigh reſtored to the ſame ſize as the other; and at the end of two months he found he could walk as well as before, except

at

at particular times, when the weather was about to change, or the like, he felt a little ſtiffneſs in the part that was ſwelled; for which I ordered him to take a courſe of the Pouhun and Geronſterre waters at Spa, with gentle exerciſe; by which he recovered his ſtrength, and a better ſtate of conſtitution than he had for many years before enjoyed.

CASE X.

Mr. H——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a weak and lax fibre, after having lived by much too freely in the early part of his life, eſpecially among the fair ſex, found himſelf attacked, in the thirty-ſecond year of his age, with a regular fit of the gout in both his feet; which, from the weakneſs of his conſtitution, went off imperfectly, leaving a ſwelling upon the parts,

that by ſucceeding fits continued to increaſe, ſo that at length the joints of his feet and ancles were ſwelled to ſuch a degree from the accumulation of the gouty matter, that it was with the greateſt difficulty he could walk: he likewiſe found his nerves much affected; he had a violent pain in his ſtomach every day, two or three hours after dinner, attended with acid belchings, even when he took the lighteſt food; his digeſtion was very weak, and his appetite much impaired.

In this ſituation he came to Spa, in the year 1773, and began to drink the Pouhun water, but he found that this ſpirituous water diſagreed with his conſtitution extremely; ſometimes it purged him violently, and at other times it lay very cold and heavy upon his ſtomach.

I was

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and after a vomit of ipecacuanha, with which he diſcharged a great quantity of acrid matter from his ſtomach, I ordered him a medicine compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, of the decoction and of the tincture of Peruvian bark, of the tincture of orange-peel, and of the powder of Ruſſia caſtor; ſo that he took ten grains of the alkali neutralized, one ounce and a half of the decoction, and one drachm of the tincture of the bark, half a drachm of the tincture of orange-peel, and ten grains of the caſtor for a doſe, three times a day. At the ſame time I ſent him to Aix la Chapelle, with orders to receive the douche upon his feet and ancles, for three quarters of an hour every day. The effects of this courſe were ſurpriſing; he found the pain of his ſtomach re-

moved, and not only this organ, but his whole conſtitution, was much ſtrengthened by the internal medicines; and when he had uſed eight and twenty douches, he found the ſwellings upon his feet and ancles entirely removed, the gouty matter diſſolved and paſſed off by perſpiration and by urine, and the parts ſo far ſtrengthened that he could walk again without any difficulty. I now ordered him to take a courſe of the waters of the Pouhun and of the Geronſterre at Spa, which agreed very well with him, and he afterwards returned to England in a much better ſtate of health than he had been for many years before.

CASE XI.

Mr. de H——, a gentleman of Mecklenburg Strelitz, in the forty-third year of his age, naturally of a lax

lax fibre, and inclined to be phlegmatic, was attacked, when in his fortieth year, with fits of an irregular gout, which went off imperfectly, leaving him in a very weak and relaxed ſituation, which was increaſed by ſucceeding fits: at length he found his ſtomach attacked with the gouty humour, which manifeſted itſelf by an anxiety, naufea, and indigeſtion. Various medicines were now ordered for his relief in his own country, but without any ſucceſs; and in this ſituation he came to Aix la Chapelle, to try the effects of theſe waters.

He was ordered firſt to drink the waters, and to be purged twice or three times a week, with a common purging electary; but this courſe not agreeing with his conſtitution, he finding his relaxation and the diſorder of his ſtomach rather

increaſed thereby, he was next ordered to uſe the vapor-bath every third day, and the common bath the other days; but he was ſoon obliged to deſiſt from this courſe, otherwiſe he would have died in the bath, his weakneſs was ſo great.

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and immediately ordered him a decoction of rad. quaſſi, with a concentrated tincture of the bark, powder of Ruſſia caſtor, the volatile ſalt of amber, and tincture of orange-peel; ſo that he took two ounces of the decoction, one drachm of the concentrated tincture, ten grains of the powder of caſtor, five of the volatile ſalt, and half a drachm of the tincture of orange-peel for a doſe, at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at five in the afternoon: and every night, going to bed, he took half a

drachm

drachm of the beſt muſk, made into a bolus with honey of roſes.

It was pleaſing to ſee the great and ſudden effects of theſe medicines: in two days he found his nerves relieved, and all his former languor and anxiety removed; and, in four or five days more, he felt the gouty matter in both his feet; which was followed with a ſlight fit of the gout, which went off in eight or ten days. Afterwards I ordered him to continue his medicines; and, at the ſame time, to uſe the douche upon both his feet and legs, for half an hour every day; this method was continued for twenty days, when he found his conſtitution much ſtrengthened, and mended for the better: afterwards I ordered him to Spa to take the Pouhun and Geronſterre waters for ſix weeks; and then he returned

returned to his own country in a good ſtate of health.

CASE XII.

Mr. T——, an Iriſh gentleman, naturally of a lax fibre, and inclined to be corpulent, was attacked, when in the thirtieth year of his age, with a violent ſciatica, and a rheumatic pain in his right leg and thigh; which, notwithſtanding various medicines had been ordered for him in Ireland, increaſed to ſuch a degree as made him very miſerable: his thigh ſwelled conſiderably, and his leg withered; the parts loſt, in a great meaſure, their motion, and became inſenſible as in a palſy.

In this ſituation he came to Bath, and took a courſe of the waters of that place, together with ſome internal medicines; but although theſe reme-

remedies were judiciouſly applied, he found very little benefit therefrom; and ſoon after left this place to go to Aix la Chapelle. Here he was immediately ordered, after taking a doſe or two of purging ſalts, to drink and bathe in the ſtrong ſulphureous water of the great ſource; at firſt, this ſeemed to give him eaſe, and to render the diſeaſed parts rather more pliable; but after he had taken about twenty baths, he found himſelf ſo extremely weakened and relaxed, that he was obliged to deſiſt therefrom.

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and immediately ordered him the douche upon the affected parts only, for half an hour every day; and at the ſame time one grain and a half of mercurius dul. and one grain and a half of kermes min. being firſt well rubbed together, and afterwards made

made into a pill with honey of roſes, which was to be taken every night going to bed, and waſhed down with fifty drops of a mixture, of ſix parts of the wine of the glaſs of antimony and four of liquid laudanum, in a draught of warm ſage and baum tea. After he had purſued this method for ſix or ſeven days, he found that the violence of his pain was greatly abated, and the ſwelling of his thigh ſomewhat diminiſhed; he was now ordered to receive the douche for three quarters of an hour every day, and to continue his medicines as before; and, at the end of ſeven weeks, he found his pain and the ſwelling upon his thigh entirely removed, the ſenſibility of his leg and thigh reſtored, and the parts ſo much ſtrengthened, that he could walk without any inconvenience. Whereupon I ordered him a

courſe

courſe of the Pouhun water at Spa, with the cold-bath, which reſtored him to his former ſtate of health.

C A S E XIII.

Madam de P——, a lady of great diſtinction in Poland, in the forty-ſecond year of her age, who, by the death of her huſband, and on account of the troubles in that kingdom, ſuffered much in her conſtitution, as her nerves were naturally weak and irritable; and after having felt a continual pain in her left ear, and in the left ſide of her face for ſeveral days, ſhe was attacked with a convulſive motion in the muſcles of thoſe parts, which at length became likewiſe continual. Various applications, both internal and external, were ordered for her relief by the phyſicians at Warſaw, but without any ſucceſs; on the contrary, the con-

convulſions became ſtronger; ſo that at times ſhe found her whole nervous ſyſtem was drawn into a convulſive motion. She was regular in her menſes at this period, and indeed in general continued to be ſo; her appetite was not at all impaired, but her ſleep was frequently diſturbed by the convulſive motions; and if ſhe ſlept more than four hours at a time, ſhe was ſure to ſuffer for it for two or three days: her teeth and gums were examined, but no imperfection was found therein.

In this ſituation ſhe left Poland, and put herſelf under the care of the late baron Van Swieten, and doctor Stœrck at Vienna, who ordered her a variety of antiſpaſmodic, tonic, and other medicines, for four months ſucceſſively, but without any manner of benefit; although, as far as I can judge by ſeeing their receipts, they

they were ordered with judgment; on the contrary, her diſeaſe increaſed conſiderably, and her convulſion became general, with geſtures not unlike thoſe which are ſeen in St. Vitus's dance.

She now left Vienna, and put herſelf under the care of two or three of the principal phyſicians at Paris; but the medicines which they ordered her were ſo very inſignificant, that they are not worth mentioning.

From Paris ſhe came to Louvain, and had a conſultation of all the medical profeſſors of that univerſity; who, perceiving that her convulſions and ſpaſms were now become ſo ſtrong and continual, very juſtly concluded, that nothing could be done in her caſe till they were removed; and therefore, as the phyſicians of Vienna had ordered her all the common antiſpaſmodics without any

good

good effect, they reſolved to put her upon a courſe of opium: a grain of purified opium was ordered her every two hours; but, contrary to their expectations, inſtead of relieving the convulſions, it augmented them conſiderably, ſo that they were obliged to deſiſt from it immediately; fearing, otherwiſe, that ſhe would expire under their hands.

After the effects of the opium were gone off, ſhe left Louvain and came to Aix la Chapelle, late in the ſeaſon, in the year 1772, and fell under the care of one of thoſe curious practitioners which I have ſo often mentioned in my treatiſe upon the waters of this place; and, after having taken ſome doſes of a purging electary, ſhe was ordered to drink four or five glaſſes of theſe waters every day; but the irritation occaſioned thereby augmented her convulſions

vulſions to ſuch a degree, that ſhe was obliged to deſiſt from this courſe the ſecond day. Bathing in the temperate bath was now propoſed, as an effectual means to cure her diſorder; and after ſhe had taken the bath four or five times ſhe found her ſpaſms were ſomewhat diminiſhed, but at the ſame time ſhe found herſelf extremely weak and low; ſo that ſhe was obliged to deſiſt therefrom for four or five days: but when ſhe began bathing again, ſhe found her ſpaſms return with greater violence than ever. Her ſituation was now deplorable, paſſing ſeveral nights ſucceſſively without any ſleep, and when exhauſted nature fell into a kind of dozing, ſhe was obliged to have a perſon by her to wake her every hour, otherwiſe the conſequences were terrible, and the ago-

nies which ſhe ſuffered were not to be deſcribed.

I was now conſulted in her caſe, and I muſt own I never met with one ſo obſtinate and ſo frightful. Although the ſpaſms and convulſions were the predominating ſymptoms, it appeared clear to me, that a great acrimony of the juices, irritating her nerves and fibres, naturally irritable, was the immediate cauſe of this terrible diſorder; for any medicine which heated, or gave the leaſt irritation to the nerves and fibres, increaſed her diſorder; as did likewiſe whatever relaxed or weakened her. I immediately therefore reſolved to give her large doſes of muſk to remove her convulſions; and, at the ſame time, I ordered her a ſtrong infuſion of malt, to ſheathe the acrimony of the juices, of which ſhe drank

drank at leaſt two quarts every day. She took two ſcruples of the beſt muſk made into pills with honey of roſes, every four hours; and, I own, I was ſurpriſed to ſee the good effects which were immediately produced thereby. She began to take the muſk in the morning, and the night following, as I ordered that ſhe ſhould not be diſturbed, ſhe ſlept quietly for eight hours ſucceſſively, and awaked without any of that anguiſh and horror, which ſhe had always felt after having ſlept too long: ſhe likewiſe found herſelf in a gentle breathing ſweat, but was not heated in the leaſt, and her convulſions were not ſo ſtrong as they had been. She continued to take the ſame doſe of muſk every four hours, except when ſhe was aſleep; and after four or five days found her convulſions and ſpaſms conſiderably diminiſhed, ſo

that ſhe could now ſpeak articulately, which ſhe could not do for ſeveral months before: ſhe ſlept quietly from ſix to eight hours every night, and in the morning found herſelf in a gentle breathing ſweat, and was much refreſhed thereby. The infuſion of malt kept her body open; and the only effects that could be perceived to be produced by thoſe great doſes of muſk, were a gentle perſpiration, as ſhe had not perſpired ſo freely for ſeveral years before, and a diminution of the convulſions and ſpaſms.

After ſhe had continued this courſe for twelve days, ſhe felt a great itching all over her body, which was ſoon after followed by a conſiderable eruption; and her convulſions and ſpaſms were ſo much diminiſhed, that ſhe was often for three or four hours ſucceſſively without

out having the leaſt involuntary motion in any of her muſcles. This eruption went off in three or four days, and then, except when ſhe was ſuddenly agitated, there was not the leaſt appearance of any convulſion or ſpaſm. Finding, therefore, that thoſe terrible ſymptoms were conquered, and that the acrimony of her juices was in a good meaſure removed, I ventured to tell her that I had now great hopes of being able to cure her radically. But, alas! I little foreſaw the ſtorm with which we were threatened. So extraordinary a caſe, and, as it was thought in this country, treated in ſo extraordinary a manner, could not fail of being the ſubject of public converſation; ſome regarding the relief which this lady had received almoſt as miraculous, while others, among the principal of which were the phy-

ſician which ſhe had formerly employed here, and a French ſurgeon, who had been in the Weſt-Indies, regarded it as a deluſion: thoſe men particularly gave it as their joint opinion to the public, that ſuch doſes of muſk were highly prejudicial to the human body, as acting like great doſes of opium; and that, although this lady had for the preſent felt the benefit thereof, the conſequence would certainly be fatal. This opinion circulated very faſt, and very ſoon reached her ears; and, notwithſtanding the great benefit that ſhe had received, the idea of the fatal conſequences made ſuch an impreſſion upon her mind, that ſhe reſolved to ſend immediately for thoſe men; who confirmed all that ſhe had heard before, with ſome plauſible reaſons, which ſhe was not able to contradict, and which are peculiar to ignorant

rant and impudent pretenders of this kind.

Next day, when I viſited her, I found her extremely agitated; ſhe immediately informed me, that ſhe would take no more of the drugs which I had ordered her; and aſked me, if I meant to deſtroy her? Making likewiſe ſome other reflections, which, perhaps, ſhe might have made to a phyſician in Poland. Whereupon I ſtopped her ſhort with telling her, that every man of common ſenſe, who knew her ſituation, would bear me witneſs, that I had done her juſtice; that I would, as ſoon as poſſible, publiſh her caſe for the whole world to judge of it; and that her reflections were very improperly applied.

She was now ordered, by the two men above mentioned, to ſit in a bath of the ſulphureous water of this

place, with the water to her middle, for eight hours every day; to have the reſt of her body well covered, and to have the water kept as near as could be to the heat of human blood: and, at the ſame time, to return to her common regimen. For four or five days ſhe felt very little of her convulſions and ſpaſms, but found herſelf very much oppreſſed and low, and as if all her lower parts were benumbed: the warm water had relaxed her to that degree, that the elaſticity of her fibres was almoſt deſtroyed; whereas the muſk, at the ſame time that it removed the ſpaſms, kept up the natural vibrations of the nerves and fibres; for I never could find, all the time that ſhe was taking the muſk, the leaſt irregularity or falling of the pulſe. When ſhe had purſued this method for ſeven days, on her awaking out

of

of ſleep, ſhe felt all the horror and anxiety which ſhe had formerly ſuffered after having ſlept too long; and the day following her convulſions returned again ſtronger than ever, and continued ſo all the night: however, according to the reaſoning of her directors, this was looked upon as the laſt effort of her diſorder, and ſhe was perſuaded to uſe the warm-bath again; but as ſhe now diſcovered that when her convulſions ceaſed, the lowneſs and anxiety which ſhe felt was greater than ever; and as the following day her convulſions and ſpaſms came on again with ſuch violence that it was thought ſhe would expire in them, the bath was now omitted, and ſhe was ordered ſugar of milk, but without any effect. Ten days after ſhe ſent to my lodgings, to deſire I would come to her again, but was informed that I

was

was at Spa; whereupon ſhe left this place, as I am informed, in a worſe ſituation than when ſhe came here.

And thus, by the wickedneſs and ignorance of unſkilful practitioners, are thoſe famous waters brought into diſrepute, by being applied in caſes where there is an impoſſibility that they can do any ſervice; but, according to the laws of nature, muſt be productive of bad effects.

CASE XIV.

Mr. C——, a monk of this place, who had naturally a very irritable fibre, and a great acrimony of the juices, was attacked, in the forty-ſecond year of his age, with a violent pain in the lower part of the lumbar region, from ſide to ſide, acroſs the loins, which extended on the left ſide into the thigh, over the proceſs of the femoris; and which con-

continued to increaſe, notwithſtanding many medicines were ordered for his relief; and at length a conſiderable ſwelling was obſerved upon the parts, and a contraction in the nerves and tendons of this leg and thigh, which was attended with a violent pain, prevented him from putting his foot to the ground.

In this ſituation he was ordered, by a conſultation of the phyſicians of this place, to bathe in theſe waters, and to receive the douche upon the ſwelled parts: theſe he continued to do for ſeveral months ſucceſſively, without receiving any benefit; on the contrary, the pain and the contraction of the nerves and tendons were conſiderably increaſed; his fleſh was much reduced, his appetite decayed, and a kind of remitting fever attended him, ſo that he was obliged to keep his bed.

After

After he had been in this ſituation for two years and a half, I was conſulted in his caſe; when, finding that the pain was deeply ſeated in the tendons of the muſcles, and that the great acrimony of his juices was the cauſe which prevented the waters from having any good effect upon him, but the contrary, I immediately ordered him two quarts every day of the malt infuſion; and, at the ſame time, to take every evening a pill, compoſed of mercur. dul. and kermes min. of each one grain and a half, and honey of roſes; together with fifty drops of a mixture, compoſed of five parts of the wine of the glaſs of antimony, and four of liquid laudanum, in a draught of ſage and baum tea. When he had taken theſe medicines eight days, he found his pain removed, together with the fever; he was able to ſit up ſome hours

hours in the day, and felt his appetite returning: and, after he had continued this courſe for three weeks, he was able to walk in his chamber with a cane; the contraction of his leg and thigh was conſiderably diminiſhed, and he was able to bend his body, ſo that he could buckle his ſhoes, which he could not do for two years before; but the ſwelling upon his thigh was very little decreaſed, and ſeemed at this time to be the chief obſtacle that retarded his cure. Whereupon I ordered a bliſter to be applied upon the ſwelled part, and the ſore to be kept open, with a mild epiſpaſtic liniment, for two months; at the end of which time the ſwelling, and as well the contractions of the nerves and tendons of his leg and thigh, were entirely removed, ſo that he could walk a league without any great incon-

inconvenience; and I finiſhed the cure by ordering him the cold-bath.

Although he continued this courſe of mercury for near three months, no other viſible effect was produced thereby than at times an increaſed perſpiration towards morning; and the infuſion of malt kept his body nearly in its natural ſtate, ſo that he never found himſelf coſtive.

Whenever there is a great acrimony of the juices, and an irritability of the fibres, it is not adviſeable to order theſe ſulphureous waters; for, let the caſe be what it will, I have always obſerved, in ſuch a ſituation, that they are productive of bad effects.

CASE XV.

Mrs. R——, an Engliſh lady, naturally of a delicate conſtitution, and of an irritable fibre, after ſuffering

ing much from a chain of nervous ſymptoms, which were the conſequences of vexation and chagrin, found herſelf attacked, in the forty-eighth year of her age, with a violent pain in her ſtomach and bowels, which was ſoon perceived to be bilious; and a heavy dull pain, at times, about the region of the liver; but no ſigns of a jaundice were diſcovered, either in the eyes, on the ſkin, or in the urine. Various remedies were ordered for her at London, and at Bath, and ſhe frequently found a temporary relief therefrom; but the leaſt irregularity in her diet, or agitation of her mind, brought on her diſorder again as bad as ever. She continued in this ſituation for near two years, ſometimes ſeemingly relieved, and at other times as bad as ever, when ſhe found a ſwelling formed about the region of the liver,

where

where ſhe had formerly felt a dull pain; and moreover, the deobſtruent medicines, which had formerly relieved her, did not, at this time, produce the ſame effect.

She was now ſent to Aix la Chapelle; and was here ordered to drink the water of the great ſource, and to keep her body open; whereby ſhe found herſelf very much relieved in eight or ten days; and, by continuing this courſe for ſix weeks, the ſwelling, with all her former ſymptoms, diſappeared; and, as her phyſician was not one of thoſe who examine too minutely into the conſequences of things, he declared her to be radically cured; and ſhe returned, very well ſatisfied, to England, and continued tolerably well for three or four months, when her diſorder returned again worſe than ever. She now took a courſe of the

warm

warm deobſtruent medicines at London; but although they were very judiciouſly adminiſtered, they produced no good effect; and ſhe was again ſent to Aix la Chapelle, and drank the ſulphureous water, and purged as before: but the effects were very different; ſhe was now much heated and irritated thereby, and her pain was increaſed. Whereupon I was conſulted in her caſe; and finding that the water did not agree with her in her preſent ſituation, I deſired her to leave it off for ſome time, and to take every night, going to bed, five grains of purified quickſilver, diſſolved in as much reſin of guaiacum, and made into a bolus, with eight grains of gum guaiacum, five grains of the diuretic ſalt, and ſome common ſyrup; which was waſhed down with a draught of an aperient decoction: and every ſecond

morning ſhe took a ſmall doſe of the electary of caſſia, to give her two ſtools. Theſe medicines ſeemed to agree very well with her conſtitution, and ſhe did not find the leaſt ill effect from the mercury; but on the tenth day a violent eruption, of a yellowiſh red colour, broke out over all the region of the liver, and extended itſelf to the navel; and ſhe immediately found eaſe, and the ſwelling upon thoſe parts diſappeared entirely.

Senſible of the conſequences of this appearance, and pleaſed with the proſpect of being radically cured, ſhe now ſubmitted chearfully to every thing I ordered her. Her former medicines were continued for ſix days more, whereby this eruption was conſiderably increaſed; but at the end of this period, it began to dry away, and then ſhe was ordered the following

ing medicine: Take of the volatile ſalt of hartſhorn, ſaturated in a ſufficient quantity of lemon juice, fifteen grains; of the decoction of quaſſi root, one ounce and a half; of the powder of Ruſſia caſtor, eight grains; and of the ſyrup of orange-peel, two drachms, and form them into a draught; of which ſhe took three every day. She continued this courſe for four weeks; and finding herſelf perfectly well, returned to England, and continues in good health to this day, as I am informed by ſome of her friends.

CASE XVI.

Mr. de S——, a lieutenant-general in the Ruſſian ſervice, naturally of a ſtrong conſtitution, and of a rigid fibre; but which, by many hardſhips and fatigues that he had undergone, in making winter cam-

paigns againſt the Turks, was greatly impaired and weakened.

In the year 1771, and in the forty-ſixth year of his age, after paſſing a river, and remaining for ſome time with his cloaths wet about him, he felt like a rheumatic pain in various parts of his body, ſometimes in one part, and at other times in another; and after this had continued for three or four weeks, on receiving the news that his brother was killed by a cannon-ball, he was ſeized with a ſlight fit of an apoplexy, which terminated in a palſy, that deprived him of the uſe of his left ſide. Various remedies were ordered for him by the firſt phyſician of the Ruſſian army, but without any effect; on the contrary, his diſeaſe ſeemed to gain ground, and his right arm, leg, and thigh, began to wither: he was coſtive from the beginning

of

of his illneſs, but this ſymptom increaſed to ſuch a degree, that he was, at length, obliged to take a gentle purging medicine every ſecond day, to procure a ſtool.

In this ſituation he was ſent in a litter to Aix la Chapelle, in the year 1772; and was immediately ordered to drink, and bathe in the water of the great ſource; together with a mild purging electary, which purged him two or three times every day: he was likewiſe ordered the douche upon the paralytic ſide, every ſecond or third day, for one hour each time. This method was continued for ſeveral months, without any good effect whatever; on the contrary, he found that the purging, and warm bathing, had weakened him conſiderably. Hereupon he was ordered the vapor-bath three times a week, and the douche for two hours each time on

the intermediate days; and this courſe was continued for ſix weeks, but without any effect whatever, except that of increaſing his weakneſs; ſo that at the end of this period, he found himſelf in ſo weak a ſituation, that it was a pain for him to be carried to the bath; and nothing but the natural ſtrength and rigidity of his muſcles, which had not yet been conquered, could have ſaved him.

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and as I perceived that the acrid matter, which obſtructed the motions of his nerves and muſcles, and occaſioned his diſeaſe (for I ſhould have obſerved that his head was not in the leaſt affected at this time, and his ſenſes were very clear) lay very deep, and was out of the reach even of this penetrating water, I deſired him to deſiſt immediately from the uſe of the

the water in any form, as it could only tend to weaken and relax him; and as ſoon as he had recovered his ſtrength a little, I ordered him to take every evening one grain and a half of mercur. dul. and two and a half of kermes min. firſt well rubbed together, and afterwards made into a bolus, with four grains of aſafœtida, and ten of the beſt Ruſſia caſtor, and honey of roſes. And at ten o'clock in the morning, and at five in the afternoon, he took four large ſpoonfulls of a mixture, compoſed of the decoction, and of the volatile tincture of the bark, of the common antimonial wine, of the powder of the beſt Ruſſia caſtor, and of the tincture of orange-peel; ſo that he took about fifty drops of the volatile tincture of the bark (made with the ſpirit of ſal. ammon. drawn with quick lime), one drachm of the antimonial wine, fif-

teen grains of caſtor, one drachm of the tincture of orange-peel, and one ounce and a half of the decoction, for a doſe. Theſe medicines were continued for one month; and finding that he was conſiderably relieved, I ventured to give him two grains of the mercury, and three and a half of the kermes, every night; and to augment the quantity of the antimonial wine to one drachm and a half, and the volatile tincture to one drachm every doſe; and this courſe was then continued for two months, and I own I was much ſurpriſed to ſee the good effects which were produced thereby. He could now lift twenty pounds weight, with his arm extended as a lever, the atrophy upon the paralytic parts was entirely removed, he could walk with a cane, his bowels performed their natural functions without any purging medicine,

dicine, his ſleep, which before was always irregular and troubled, became natural and quiet; and, in fact, I now perceived that the obſtructions, which prevented the regular motion of the nerves and muſcles, were removed; and therefore he was ordered to ceaſe the uſe of thoſe medicines, and to uſe only the gum-pills, with the cold-bath, which were continued for four months, and finiſhed his cure.

C A S E XVII.

Madam la Comteſſe de N——, a widow lady of Weſtphalia, naturally of an irritable fibre, and inclined to be ſanguine, was attacked, in the fifty-ſecond year of her age, after her menſes had ceaſed to flow, with all the ſymptoms of an hyſteric colic, attended with ſpaſms of the bowels, and great anxiety; for which her phy-

phyſician ordered her gentle evacuations and anodynes, which relieved her for the preſent; but they left ſuch a weakneſs in the parts, that upon the leaſt agitation of the mind, or indigeſtion, her diſorder returned again with more violence than before; and continued ſo to do for eight or ten months, while ſhe remained in the country: at the end of which period, her diſorder was increaſed to that degree, and often attended with a bilious diarrhœa, that ſhe was obliged to go to Aix la Chapelle to drink theſe ſulphureous waters; which, it is true, at firſt gave her great relief; the pain and ſpaſms of her bowels were removed, the acrimony of the bile was in a great degree abſorbed, and the acrid humours, which irritated the coats of the ſtomach and bowels, were carried off by ſtool; but ſhe found herſelf

ſelf very weak and low; and her phyſician here, ſuppoſing that there was nothing more neceſſary to cure a diſorder of this nature, than to carry off the offending matter, left her in this ſituation, telling her that her lowneſs and weakneſs would go off gradually. However, at the end of fourteen days, her diſorder returned again more violently than ever; and the ſulphureous water, which had eaſed her before, now increaſed the violence of her diſorder, and heated her very much. Her phyſician now ordered her a gentle purging electary, with magneſia, which ſeemed to give her ſome little relief; but at length this medicine began to be diſagreeable to her ſtomach, and then ſhe was ordered clyſters, compoſed of ingredients much of the ſame nature; and when the violence of the pain, and the ſpaſms

of

of the bowels, occaſioned little feverish heats, which was oftentimes the caſe, ſhe was let blood.

This courſe was continued for near fourteen months, during which interval ſhe took about one hundred and fifty doſes of a purging medicine, and received as many clyſters, but her diſorder continued nearly in the ſame ſituation, or rather appeared to be increaſed; and ſhe was reduced thereby to ſuch a degree of weakneſs, that ſhe was obliged to lay in bed three parts in four of the whole time; and was alſo waſted ſo much, that her bones appeared to be covered only with ſkin. Her reſt was now very much diſturbed; and whenever the wind changed to the north, or eaſt, and the atmoſphere became cold and heavy, ſhe was in the greateſt agonies for twelve hours.

In

In this ſituation ſhe was when I was conſulted for her; and as I perceived that her ſtomach and bowels were now ſo weakened, that they were not in a ſtate to bear the irritation and force of any of thoſe common drugs from which it was moſt probable to expect any laſting relief, I immediately ordered her to drink Pyrmont water in the following manner. Four ounces of Pyrmont water was poured into a glaſs which contained about one ounce and a half of boiling milk, and the whole was drank off immediately, before the ſpirit of the water was evaporated by the heat of the milk. She had a freſh bottle of Pyrmont water, and took four glaſſes of this mixture every day; and it was really ſurpriſing to ſee how ſuddenly this lady was relieved by this means. Her own expreſſion was, that ſhe had never felt any

thing ſo comfortable and agreeable to her ſtomach. At the end of fourteen days the pains and ſpaſms of her ſtomach and bowels were entirely removed, and her ſtools become natural and regular; and at the end of four weeks ſhe was in a ſituation to ride out in her coach.

I now ordered her to change the milk for common hot-water, and to take five glaſſes every day; and at the end of another month ſhe left off the hot-water gradually, and drank the Pyrmont water alone; by which ſhe was radically cured, without the aſſiſtance of any other medicine whatever.

C A S E XVIII.

Mr. le baron de H——, a Swediſh gentleman, of twenty-four years of age, naturally of a delicate conſtitution, and of an irritable fibre, was thrown

thrown from his horſe, and received a violent contuſion upon his thigh, from the os ilium even to the knee. Various kinds of fomentations, cataplaſms, plaſters, &c. were ordered for him in Sweden, but without any effect; the pain, which he felt from the firſt, continued ſtill the ſame; and at length the nerves and tendons began to contract, and an atrophy appeared upon the leg and thigh.

In this ſituation he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, from a ſuppoſition that theſe waters would relieve him; and, after taking ſome doſes of purging phyſic, was ordered, by a phyſician of this place, to bathe every day in the common manner, for three quarters of an hour each time. This he continued to do for near two months, but without any good effect whatever; on the contrary, he found himſelf much relaxed and weakened there-

thereby: he was now ordered the douche upon the affected parts for half an hour every day; and this was continued for near two months more, but with very little effect: he found the contraction upon the nerves and tendons not altogether ſo ſtrong after uſing the douche, but he now perceived a ſwelling beginning to form itſelf upon the thigh, near the proceſs of the femoris. The douche, and the vapor-bath, were now uſed upon that part alternately, for a conſiderable time, but without any viſible effect; and in this ſituation he left Aix la Chapelle.

There are many caſes of this kind, where the obſtructions, or morbid matter, lie deep among the muſcles, that will not be affected even by thoſe penetrating waters, or indeed by any external medicine whatever, and yet will eaſily give way to internal

ternal medicines, ſuch as thoſe that were ordered for the monk before mentioned; and therefore, in caſes of this nature, when I have found that the waters, after having been uſed for a reaſonable time, have not produced the good effects that I could wiſh, I omit them, and order internal medicines of this nature, as will be ſeen hereafter.

CASE XIX.

Mr. O——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a lax and irritable fibre, who, after having indulged his appetite too freely in his youthful days, found himſelf attacked, in the fortieth year of his age, with an irregular gout, and a great oppreſſion upon his nerves; but, by ſome medicines which were adminiſtered to him in England, he recovered, in ſome meaſure, this indiſpoſition; the

oppreſſion upon his nerves was removed, and his gout became regular.

In his forty-ſecond year, he was attacked with ſuch a ſevere fit of the gout, after having been ſomewhat irregular in his manner of living, as he had never felt before, in both his hands and feet, which left a conſiderable ſwelling upon thoſe parts, with ſome part of the gouty matter hanging upon their nerves and tendons; and this, not being diſſolved before another fit of the gout came on, was thereby much increaſed, and continued to be ſo by ſucceeding fits, till, by the accumulation of the gouty matter, the joints of his feet, ancles, and hands, had loſt almoſt all their motion; but when the fit of the gout was off, he felt no remains of this matter upon any other part of his body: he could not walk, and very

often, eſpecially before any change of weather, he could not hold a ſpoon, or a fork, in his hand to feed himſelf.

In this ſituation he came to Aix la Chapelle; and, as I was immediately conſulted in his caſe, I ordered him firſt a vomit of ipecacuanha, which diſcharged a great quantity of phlegm, and acrid matter, from his ſtomach; and afterwards to receive the douche one hour every day, upon his hands and feet, one quarter of an hour upon each part; and, at the ſame time, he took internally a medicine compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, with the decoction and the concentrated tincture of the Peruvian bark, the tincture of Ruſſia caſtor, and of orange-peel; ſo that he took twelve grains of the alkali neutralized, one ounce and a half of the decoction, and one drachm of the

concentrated tincture of the bark, one drachm of the tincture of caſtor, and half a drachm of the tincture of orange-peel for a doſe, three times a day. When he had uſed theſe medicines for eight days, he found the ſwellings upon his hands and feet beginning to decreaſe, and thoſe parts to recover their motion; but, after two days more, he was attacked with a fit of the gout, although this was not the ſeaſon in which he had been accuſtomed to have thoſe fits: and although I informed him that this was nothing more than ſome part of this matter, which had remained inactive upon the muſcles of his hands and feet, diſſolved by the douches, and thrown again into the circulation, and that it would be of no long duration, he was extremely diſconcerted at it; ſo much he dreaded the attacks of this terrible diſeaſe. But

after

after four days, the pain ceaſed entirely, and the eighth day he began to receive the douche, and to take his medicines again as before.

This courſe he continued for ſix weeks, taking at intervals, whenever he found himſelf inclined to be coſtive, a little lenitive electary; and at the end of this period, found the gouty ſwellings entirely diſſolved, and the parts ſo much ſtrengthened that he could walk, and had the uſe of his hands as well as ever; and in this ſituation he returned to England.

CASE XX.

Mr. G——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a rigid fibre, and a great ſtrength of conſtitution; but by irregular living, and ſeveral courſes of mercurial phyſic, which he was obliged to undergo in his

youthful days, his conſtitution was ſo much weakened and relaxed, that at the age of forty-five, he found himſelf ſeverally attacked with fits of the gout, which always went off imperfectly, leaving a weakneſs and ſwelling in both his feet and ancles, and a weakneſs in his knees; ſo that at the age of forty-eight, from repeated fits of this diſorder, and an accumulation of the gouty matter upon the joints of thoſe parts, he was a cripple, and was carried about like a child.

In this ſituation he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, in the year 1772; and, as I was immediately conſulted in his caſe, I ordered him, after two doſes of powder of rhubarb, firſt to bathe in the common water baths for three or four times, and then to uſe the vapor-bath, receiving the vapor upon the parts affected only, for

for twenty minutes every day, for five or ſix days ſucceſſively; to ſoften and take off in ſome meaſure, the rigidity of the fibres upon thoſe parts: afterwards I ordered him to receive the douche upon thoſe parts for one hour every day; and, at the ſame time, to take a medicine, compoſed of the concentrated tincture of the Peruvian bark, and of the dulcified ſpirit of vitriol; ſo that he took one drachm of each for a doſe, three times a day, in a glaſs of old Malaga wine. When he had purſued this courſe for fourteen days only, he found the ſwellings upon his feet and ancles decreaſing, and his knees and ancles gathering ſtrength; and at the end of ſix weeks, he was able to walk without a cane.

During this period, he felt three or four times ſome ſmart ſhooting pains in his hands, knees, and feet,

and imagined he ſhould have a fit of the gout; but they went off entirely in a day, or a day and a half. In fact, when he had purſued this courſe for ten weeks, he found the motion of thoſe parts ſo much reſtored, and ſuch a free circulation thereupon, that he was able to walk without any inconveniency: and, after taking a courſe of the Pouhun and Geronſterre waters at Spa, he returned to England in a good ſtate of health.

CASE XXI.

Mr. W——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a lax fibre, and inclined to be corpulent, after expoſing himſelf rather too much to the ſeverities of the climate in North America, during the laſt war, found himſelf attacked, in the thirty-ninth year of his age, with a ſmart fit of the

the gout, which went off imperfectly, leaving a conſiderable ſwelling and weakneſs in both his ancles and hands; which, by ſucceeding fits, increaſed conſiderably, ſo that, at the end of four years, and in the year 1770, he had ſo far loſt the uſe of thoſe parts, that he could neither walk, nor feed himſelf.

Reduced to this ſituation, he was conveyed to Bath, in the year 1771, where he drank the waters, bathed, and was dry-pumped, but without any good effect; on the contrary, thoſe fortifying waters ſtimulating his fibres to a contraction, brought on a ſmart fit of the gout, which laſted longer than any of the preceding fits, and left him much weaker than he had ever been.

The following year he came to Aix la Chapelle; and as I was conſulted in his caſe, I ordered him a vomit

vomit of ipecacuanha, with which he threw off a great quantity of bile and phlegm from his ſtomach; and the following day, he took a gentle doſe of rhubarb and magneſia alba, which purged him three times: afterwards, without any other preparation, I ordered him the douche upon the affected parts, for one hour every day, to diſſolve the gouty matter which hung thereon, and to carry it off by perſpiration; and, at the ſame time, to keep up the vibration of the fibres to the natural ſtandard, or rather above that ſtandard: and to carry off by urine what little part of this matter was again forced into the circulation, I ordered him a medicine of the ſame nature with that which is deſcribed in Caſe X. only he took fourteen grains of the neutralized alkali, one ounce and a half of the decoction,

and

and one drachm of the tincture of the bark, twelve grains of the powder of caſtor, and half a drachm of the tincture of orange-peel, for a doſe, three times a day: but whenever he found himſelf inclined to be coſtive, he ceaſed this medicine for a day, and took a gentle doſe of the electary of caſſia.

He continued this courſe for ten weeks ſucceſſively; and at the end of this period, found all his ſwellings entirely diſperſed, and the parts ſo much ſtrengthened that he could walk without a cane, and had the uſe of his hands almoſt as perfect as ever. However I ſhould have obſerved, that during this interval, he had three or four ſlight attacks of the gout, but they went off in two days without any inconveniency; and, as far as I can recollect, every one

one with a large diſcharge of thick urine.

Finding that he had now a free circulation upon the parts, and that the gouty matter was entirely diſſolved, I ordered him the cold-bath every day; and four five ounce-glaſſes of Pyrmont water every morning, between the hours of ſeven o'clock and noon, but warmed and taken with common hot water, in the ſame manner as is deſcribed in Caſe XVII. He likewiſe purſued ſuch a regimen as is pointed out in my little treatiſe on the gout, and uſed gentle exerciſe; and, at the end of ſix weeks more, he left this place in a good ſtate of health.

He has ſince continued to uſe the cold-bath in England, with the ſame kind of regimen, and exerciſe; and I have been lately informed, that he

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not only continues free from the gout, but his conſtitution is as good, and his fibres as elaſtic, as they were when he was twenty years of age.

CASE XXII.

Monſieur de C——, a gentleman of Bruxelles, naturally of a relaxed and irritable fibre, and ſubject from his infancy to ſcorbutic eruptions, and a great acrimony of the juices, found himſelf ſeized with a violent itching all over his body, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, which was ſoon after followed with a violent tetter-like eruption upon his hands, arms, legs, thighs, in his face, and upon many parts of the trunk of his body. Various medicines were ordered for his relief at Bruxelles, and at Louvain, together with the ſolution of ſublimate by Monſieur Van Swieten, but they

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ſerved rather to augment his diſeaſe than to diminiſh it. During the ſummer ſeaſon, this diſeaſe appeared only like a tetter; and, except what appeared upon his hands, and in his face, gave him no great uneaſineſs; but, as ſoon as the cold of the winter came on, the diſeaſe changed its appearance; all the eruptions were now covered with thick white ſcales, ſo that he had the appearance of a leper; and very often the ſkin broke in many places and diſcharged an acrid humour.

In this ſituation he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, in the year 1773, where he was ordered to drink the waters, and to purge every ſecond or third day, with the common purging ſalts; and, at the ſame time, to bathe for forty minutes every day in the common bath: but he ſoon found himſelf greatly relaxed and weak-

weakened, and perceived that this courſe was not proper for his diſorder.

I was now conſulted in his caſe; and perceiving the weak and relaxed ſtate of his fibres, and the great acrimony of his juices, I ordered him to drink at leaſt three bottles every day, of the infuſion of the beſt pale malt; and to take a draught, compoſed of two ounces of the decoction, and one drachm of the concentrated tincture of the bark, with fifteen grains of the diuretic ſalt, three times a day; and, at the ſame time, to uſe the vapor-bath every ſecond day, for fifteen or twenty minutes each time: all his ſallads were likewiſe ordered to be of the antiſcorbutic herbs. It gave me great pleaſure to ſee how ſudden the effects of this courſe were: this ſulphureous vapor cleared the ſurface of his body of thoſe eruptions, while

while the bark kept up the vibration of the fibres; and the infuſion of malt, with the antiſcorbutic herbs, not only corrected the acrimony of the juices, but kept his body open. After four weeks the eruptions on his face, and ſoon after thoſe upon the other parts of his body, diſappeared, and he began to gather fleſh and ſtrength; and in two months he was perfectly cured, without the aſſiſtance of any other medicine whatever.

CASE XXIII.

Mademoiſelle de R——, a young lady of Holland, of a delicate conſtitution, after an intermitting fever, with which ſhe was attacked in the twenty-fifth year of her age, and which was too ſuddenly checked by the Peruvian bark, found herſelf ſeized on a ſudden with a violent itching all over her body, which was

ſoon

ſoon after followed by a tetter-like eruption, as in the preceding caſe. Various medicines were ordered for her relief in Holland, ſuch as antimonials, and antiſcorbutics of various kinds (as ſhe could not ſupport the operation of any preparation of mercury), but without any ſucceſs; on the contrary, the eruption was thereby rather increaſed.

In this ſituation ſhe was ſent to Aix la Chapelle; and was ordered, by a phyſician of this place, to drink the waters, and to purge every ſecond or third day, with the common purging ſalts; and, at the ſame time, to bathe in the common bath. But ſhe ſoon found herſelf ſo much weakened and relaxed by this courſe, that ſhe was obliged to deſiſt: however, as the bathing had evidently done her ſervice, her eruption being thereby ſomewhat diminiſhed, ſhe

was ordered, after ceaſing for four-teen or fifteen days, to recommence the former courſe, which ſhe continued for eight or ten days, and then found herſelf weaker than ever. She was now ordered to ceaſe drinking the waters, and taking the purging medicines; and, in the place of the common bath, ſhe was ordered the vapor-bath, for fifteen minutes every day, with a cooling regimen. In ſeven or eight days, ſhe perceived that the ſulphureous vapor had greatly diminiſhed her eruption; but, at the ſame time, for want of ſome internal ſupport to keep up the vibrations and elaſticity of the fibres, ſhe was thereby rendered ſo weak, that it was feared ſhe would have died in the bath, and conſequently was obliged to deſiſt: and ſuppoſing that nothing elſe could be done for her,

her, ſhe left this place without being cured.

CASE XXIV.

Monſieur L——, an officer in the ſervice of Holland, naturally of a ſanguine conſtitution, and of an irritable fibre, was attacked, when upon his duty in Surinam, with a ſevere fit of the colica pictonum, or dry belly-ach; which, by the medical aſſiſtance which he could procure in that part of the world, was eaſed, but ſoon after terminated in a palſy of both his hands, and arms, to his elbows; ſo that his hands were of no manner of uſe to him, and he was obliged to be fed like a child.

In this diſagreeable ſituation he was brought to Europe; and, as the waters of Aix have been always deemed a ſpecific for a palſy occaſioned by this means, he was ſoon

after ſent to this place; where, after taking ſome laxatives, he was immediately ordered to drink the waters, and every ſecond or third day to be purged with the common purging ſalts. After he had continued this courſe for fourteen or fifteen days, he was ordered to bathe in the common bath, for three quarters of an hour every day.

The bathing, it is true, was certainly of ſervice to him, for when he had bathed twelve or fourteen times, he recovered ſome degree of feeling and motion in his hands and arms; but, being before ſo much relaxed and weakened by the hot climate of Surinam, the bath, as it was not properly aſſiſted with internal medicines, to keep up, in ſome meaſure, the vibration of the fibres, weakened and relaxed him to ſuch a de-

a degree, that he was obliged to desiſt therefrom.

He was now ordered the vapor-bath, that is, to receive the vapor upon the parts affected only; but this was likewiſe found to be ſo powerful, that he could not ſupport it. Whereupon he was ordered the douche; and certainly, if this method had been properly applied, and ſeconded with ſome internal tonic and deobſtruent remedy, according to all appearance, he would have been radically cured; but the douche was ordered for one hour every day, and a cooling laxative decoction was ordered internally. He ſoon found conſiderable relief in his hands, for ſeveral hours after he had uſed the douche, ſo that he could button his cloaths; but after he had paſſed the night in bed, he was in the ſame ſituation as before: however, he was

ordered to perſiſt in this courſe; but the conſequence was, that the nerves and tendons of the affected parts, by being too much forced, while the other parts of the body were in ſuch a relaxed ſtate, were contracted and became rigid; and in this ſituation he left Aix la Chapelle, without any proſpect of ever being cured.

CASE XXV.

Mynheer Van ——, of Amſterdam, who was naturally of a lax fibre, much inclined to be phlegmatic, and had led a ſedentary life, was attacked with a hemiplegia, in the thirty-eighth year of his age, which entirely deprived him of the uſe of his right ſide; and, at firſt, alſo of his ſpeech; but after ſome time this latter returned, although imperfectly. At the firſt attack he was inſenſible for near twelve hours; but,

but, by ſome medicines which were ordered him, he recovered his ſenſes. It was never perceived that his ſtomach was particularly affected; but he was always coſtive; and, at length, this complaint increaſed to ſuch a degree, that he was obliged to take ſome purgative every ſecond day to procure him a ſtool or two. He ſpit more conſiderably than he had done before this attack; and as he could not ſleep but when he was lying upon his left ſide, he was obliged to have a perſon near him all the night, to wake him every two hours; for when he ſlept longer than this time, he found ſuch a numbneſs in his whole body, and ſuch a want of motion, even in the involuntary muſcles, that it was often thought he would have expired before any aſſiſtance could be given him. Various remedies were or-

dered for him in Amſterdam, and by the profeſſors at Leyden, but without any effect; and in this ſituation he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle.

I was now conſulted in his caſe, with two other phyſicians of this place; and, after well conſidering the nature of his diſorder, and of his conſtitution, I was well perſuaded that theſe waters could not be of any ſervice to him, but the contrary, and therefore gave my opinion and reaſons againſt their being applied, and in favour of a different treatment; but the other two phyſicians were of a different way of thinking; and as they coincided with the opinion of thoſe who ſent him hither, he followed their advice, and began to drink the waters, and to take, at proper intervals, a purging electary, to keep his body open; and, at the ſame time, he was ordered to bathe every day in the

the common bath, and to receive the douche upon the affected parts, every ſecond day. This courſe was continued for ſix months, in the year 1772, but without any other effect than that he found the rigidity of the muſcles in the affected part ſomewhat abated; but, upon ceaſing the uſe of the bath, during the cold of the winter, he ſoon perceived that he was in the ſame ſituation as when he began, or rather weaker; for he was obliged now to be awaked out of his ſleep every hour, to be moved in his bed, otherwiſe he was in the greateſt agonies and danger. However, in the beginning of the ſeaſon 1773, he began to bathe again, and likewiſe to uſe the vapor-bath three times every week, which he continued near ſeven months, but without any good effect whatever; on the contrary, he found himſelf now much

much weaker than when he began, and in this ſituation he returned to Holland.

CASE XXVI.

Mr. C——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a ſtrong and elaſtic fibre, who, by expoſing himſelf too much to the heats and colds of the climate in North America, and living too freely with the fair-ſex, at the age of thirty-ſix found himſelf afflicted with a violent rheumatic pain in moſt of the muſcular parts of his body. Various medicines were ordered for his relief, both in England and in America, and thoſe judiciouſly applied, but they ſeemed rather to increaſe his diſorder than to diminiſh it; however, by perſiſting in their uſe, he felt at length, an itching all over the trunk of his body, and upon his head, but none upon his

his arms, legs, or thighs; and in two or three days, this was followed by tetter-like eruptions, not much unlike thoſe deſcribed in Caſe XXII. particularly about the lumbar vertebræ, which were entirely covered therewith, and which, as ſoon as the cold of the winter began, became extremely troubleſome, and were now covered with a thick white ſcurf.

Several courſes of mercurial and antiſcorbutic medicines were ordered for him in England, but without any good effect: whereupon he was now ſent to Aix la Chapelle, and by the advice of a phyſician of this place, was ordered the vapor-bath, and ſome purges of the common purging ſalts. The vapor-bath ſoon removed all the ſcurf from his eruptions, but a heat and itching, which denoted a great acrimony of the juices, ſtill remained; and, after he had ceaſed

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the vapor-bath for three or four days to repoſe himſelf, he found the ſcurf increaſing again. I was now conſulted in his caſe; and immediately ordered him to drink three bottles of the malt infuſion every day, and to eat freely of the anti-ſcorbutic herbs, as ſallads; and, at the ſame time, to uſe the vapor bath upon the parts affected, for twenty minutes every day. The effects of this courſe were ſoon viſible: the heat and acrimony of the juices were ſoon corrected, and, at the end of ſix weeks, all the eruptions diſappeared, and he returned to England perfectly cured, even without the aſſiſtance of any other medicine.

CASE XXVII.

Madam de J——, a Daniſh lady, naturally of an irritable fibre, and of a delicate conſtitution, after having

ing been delivered of her firſt child, in the twenty-eighth year of her age, was attacked with a periodical convulſion, not much unlike St. Vitus's dance, which was conſiderably accelerated by any ſudden agitation of the body or mind. Her menſes were ſometimes obſtructed for two or three months, and at other times came on with double force; and, with all this, ſhe had frequently hyſterical ſymptoms; was at times extremely low and melancholy; and, when much agitated, was diſordered in her ſenſes.

Various remedies were ordered for her relief in Copenhagen, and in Holſtein, but without any good effect; on the contrary, it appeared that her diſorder was rather increaſed thereby; and afterwards ſhe was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, from a ſuppoſition that theſe waters would be of

of ſervice to her; and was here ordered to begin with drinking the water of the great ſource, with doſes of purging phyſic, at proper intervals; and, at the ſame time, to bathe in the common manner. This courſe was continued for four months without any viſible effect, except that ſhe found herſelf much weaker and more relaxed.

I was now conſulted, with another phyſician of this place, and gave my opinion and reaſons for the diſuſe of theſe waters immediately; and, indeed, of every thing that tended to heat and irritate her; and for her taking, in the firſt place, a courſe of antiſpaſmodics to remove the convulſion and ſpaſms; and afterwards the cold-bath, with ſome mild tonic internal medicines. But, as her former phyſician, and he who was conſulted with me, were of a dif-

different opinion, which ſhe ſeemed to coincide with, I left her to follow their advice. She was now ordered the vapor-bath, with a cooling regimen, and ſome doſes of magneſia alba, to keep her body open: but after having continued this courſe for ſix weeks, uſing the vapor-bath for fifteen or twenty minutes every ſecond day, her diſorder was not any way changed for the better; but, on the contrary, her convulſions were rather more violent and frequent, and in this ſituation ſhe left Aix la Chapelle.

CASE XXVIII.

Mr. W——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a lax and irritable fibre, having been long afflicted with what is commonly called a rheumatic gout in his neck, and in the hinder part of his head; ſo that he could

could not move either, without great uneaſineſs and pain. He had made trial of all the medicines which are generally given in ſuch caſes, both external and internal, together with bathing, pumping, &c. at Bath, but to no purpoſe. After this diſorder had continued for ſeveral years, and when he was in the fifty-fifth year of his age, he was attacked with a periodical convulſion and ſpaſm upon thoſe parts, which often extended itſelf all through the muſcular parts of the ſhoulders, and even to the middle of the vertebræ of the back.

In this ſituation he came to Aix la Chapelle, in the year 1773, and was immediately ordered to drink the waters, taking occaſionally ſome doſes of purging ſalts and rhubarb, and to bathe in the common manner: but this courſe producing no good effect,

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at the end of four weeks he was ordered to receive the vapor upon the parts affected only, every third day; and on the intermediate days to receive the douche alſo upon thoſe parts. This courſe was likewiſe continued for ſix weeks, but without anſwering any good purpoſe whatever; on the contrary, his convulſions and ſpaſms came on oftner than before, and very often his ſenſes were much troubled; and in this ſituation he left Aix la Chapelle.

I have never yet ſeen nor heard of a convulſive caſe, where theſe waters have been productive of any good effect, except the ſpaſms were continual, and the parts wanted relaxing; in ſuch inſtances, common bathing in the baths which are ſupplied by the waters of the inferior ſources, will be attended with great advantage; and therefore thoſe

who order theſe ſulphureous waters indiſcriminately, in caſes of this kind, are highly blameable.

CASE XXIX.

An Iriſh lady, in the fifty-ſixth year of her age, was frequently attacked with the ſymptoms of a jaundice, which came on ſuddenly; and, by the uſe of the medicines generally ordered in ſuch caſes, went off as ſuddenly, but always with a bilious purging; from whence it was juſtly concluded that her diſorder aroſe from bile-ſtones obſtructing the paſſage of this juice into the inteſtines. However, after ſhe had ſuffered ſeveral ſlight attacks of this nature, which went off as before deſcribed, ſhe was ſeized with a violent one which laſted ſeveral days, and was not only attended with all the

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ſymptoms of a confirmed jaundice, but with a great heat and ſpaſm over the region of the liver and the bile-duct. Various ſaline and deobſtruent internal medicines were ordered for her relief, together with a warm fomentation, and an emollient cataplaſm over the parts affected, whereby ſhe was eaſed; but it was never obſerved that ſhe paſſed off any bile-ſtones by ſtool: whereupon ſhe was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, and was very judiciouſly ordered, by a phyſician of this place, to drink freely of the water of the great ſource, and to take therewith every morning ſome pills compoſed of ſoap and rhubarb, which, with the water, gave her two or three ſtools every day; and, at the ſame time, to bathe in a very temperate bath for three quarters of an hour every ſecond day. After ſhe had purſued this courſe

for three weeks, ſhe was ſeized one day, juſt as ſhe was coming out of the bath, with a ſpaſm over the region of the bile-duct as before; but, as her phyſician was near at hand, ſhe was ordered again into the bath, and to remain there quiet for ſome time, although ſhe found herſelf eaſed in leſs than half an hour, and ſoon after paſſed off by ſtool a bile-ſtone of the ſize of a large nutmeg, and ſeveral ſmall ones; and ſince that time ſhe has been entirely free from thoſe obſtructions, and remains in a good ſtate of health.

CASE XXX.

Mr. C——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a ſtrong elaſtic fibre, in the fortieth year of his age, was often attacked, all of a ſudden, as is deſcribed in the preceding caſe, with all the ſymptoms of a jaundice,

attended

attended at times with ſlight ſpaſms over the region of the bile-duct; but by the uſe of the medicines which are generally ordered in caſes of this nature, he found himſelf relieved, the diſeaſe generally going off with a bilious purging, and ſometimes the bile flowed ſo abundantly into the primæ vitæ, after the uſe of thoſe medicines, that he vomited it likewiſe. However, after a long journey which he was obliged to make in a ſhort ſpace of time, and lying in damp-ſheets, he was ſeized with a violent fit of his former diſorder, which was not only attended with all the ſymptoms of a confirmed jaundice, but alſo with a continual ſpaſm over the bile-duct, and about the region of the liver. Emollient fomentations and cataplaſms were applied externally to the parts, and deobſtruent medicines were ordered

internally; whereby, at the end of eight days he was eaſed, but not with that diſcharge of bile which he had obſerved heretofore. Whereupon he was ſent to Aix la Chapelle, where he was ordered to drink the water of the great ſource, and to take three doſes every day of pills, compoſed of almond-ſoap, the volatile ſalt of amber, powder of rhubarb, and honey of roſes; ſo that, with the water and this medicine, he had two purging ſtools every day; and, at the ſame time, he was ordered to bathe in a temperate bath for one hour daily.

He purſued this courſe for four weeks; and during this time paſſed off ſeveral bile-ſtones by ſtool; after which all the ſymptoms of the jaundice, and the ſpaſms upon the region of the liver and bile-duct, entirely diſappeared.

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He was now ordered to drink Pyrmont water, prepared in the manner before deſcribed; and having purſued a courſe of this nature for ſeven weeks, he found himſelf radically cured, and has ever ſince remained in a good ſtate of health.

CASE XXXI.

Mademoiſelle de C——, a young lady of Holland, naturally of a lax fibre, and much inclined to be corpulent, was attacked, in the twenty-ſeventh year of her age, with a remitting fever; of which ſhe was relieved by the medicines which are commonly ordered in ſuch caſes, but not till after the diſorder had continued for ſeveral weeks; and ſoon after ſhe was ſeized with a violent pain in the muſcular parts of her arm, which extended from a little above the wriſt to the ſhoulder.

Suppoſing it to be a rheumatic pain, her phyſician in Holland ordered her various remedies, calculated to remove diſorders of that claſs, but without any effect; on the contrary, the pain, which came on at firſt only at intervals, became now continual, and more ſevere; and, in this ſituation ſhe was ſent to Aix la Chapelle; where, after taking ſome common purgatives, ſhe was ordered to bathe for one hour every day in the temperate bath, and three times a week to receive the douche upon the parts affected. This courſe was continued for ſix weeks; but, inſtead of receiving any benefit therefrom, ſhe found the pain conſiderably augmented; ſo much, that ſhe frequently paſſed whole nights without any reſt. She was now ordered the vapor-bath, for twenty minutes every ſecond day, together with a cooling regi-

regimen, which is generally ordered by the phyſicians of this place; but this appeared to diſagree with her conſtitution much more than the former, as ſhe found herſelf conſiderably weakened thereby; and after having taken the bath twenty times received no manner of relief therefrom.

I was now conſulted in her caſe; and perceiving that her diſorder was occaſioned by an acrid humour, which lay ſo deep among the muſcles, as to be out of the reach of any external application; and, conſequently, that theſe waters could be of no ſervice in her caſe, I ordered her to quit their uſe immediately, and to take every evening, a pill, compoſed of one grain of prepared mercur. dul. one grain and a half of kermes min. and honey of roſes; together with fifty drops of a mixture

ture compoſed of five parts of the antimonial wine (as deſcribed in Caſe XIV.) and four of liquid laudanum, in a draught of ſage and baum tea. When ſhe had taken theſe medicines for ten days, the pain was greatly diminiſhed, and in three weeks ſhe was entirely free from it. No other effect was perceived from the mercury, and the other medicines than a perſpiration a little more than ordinary, towards the morning. She was afterwards ordered a courſe of the Pouhun water at Spa for ſix weeks, and has ſince enjoyed a good ſtate of health.

C A S E XXXII.

Mr. A——, an Engliſh gentleman, of a delicate conſtitution, and an irritable fibre, was ſeized, in the twenty-ſeventh year of his age, when he was in the ſouth of France, with

a low nervous fever; which, from an improper treatment, continued for ſeveral months, and reduced him to a great degree of weakneſs: however, by gentle exerciſe, and the mildneſs of the climate, he in ſome meaſure recovered his ſtrength, but was often ſeized with a violent nervous head-ach, which was ſometimes attended with a low remitting fever, a weakneſs of the ſtomach and bowels, loſs of appetite, an indigeſtion, and want of reſt. Many remedies were ordered for him in France, but without any ſucceſs; on the contrary, he was conſiderably weakened thereby, and thoſe nervous ſymptoms were increaſed: he now determined to come to Aix la Chapelle, from a ſuppoſition that theſe waters might be of ſervice in his caſe; and being recommended to a phyſician of this place, he was ordered

dered firſt to be purged, and to drink the waters for three weeks ſucceſſively; and although he found himſelf conſiderably weakened thereby, as the ſulphureous water ſeemed to agree with his ſtomach and bowels, he determined to follow the advice of his phyſician; who now ordered him likewiſe to receive the ſulphureous vapor of the water of the great ſource upon his head, for the cure of his nervous head-ach; and, at the ſame time, to bathe every ſecond day in the temperate bath, and to uſe a cooling regimen to carry off his fever. This courſe was continued for fourteen or fifteen days, but the conſequences were very near being fatal: his head-ach was increaſed to ſuch a degree, that he often wiſhed to be out of this world; his fever was now become continual; he could not ſleep; and was

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ſo much weakened, that it was with difficulty he could walk the length of a common room: he had likewiſe at times ſlight ſpaſms of the muſcles.

I was now called in to his aſſiſtance; and perceiving that thoſe violent ſymptoms were the conſequences of theſe waters being improperly adminiſtered, I ordered him to quit their uſe immediately; to take, three or four times a day, a doſe of the cold infuſion of the Peruvian bark; and, to take off the ſpaſms of the muſcles, and the irritation of the nerves, to take every ſix hours a ſcruple of the beſt muſk, made into a bolus with ſyrup of ſaffron. With the uſe of theſe medicines he found himſelf greatly relieved in four days; his fever, and the ſpaſms of his muſcles, were entirely removed; his head-ach was greatly diminiſhed; he

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dered firſt to be purged, and to drink the waters for three weeks ſucceſſively; and although he found himſelf conſiderably weakened thereby, as the ſulphureous water ſeemed to agree with his ſtomach and bowels, he determined to follow the advice of his phyſician; who now ordered him likewiſe to receive the ſulphureous vapor of the water of the great ſource upon his head, for the cure of his nervous head-ach; and, at the ſame time, to bathe every ſecond day in the temperate bath, and to uſe a cooling regimen to carry off his fever. This courſe was continued for fourteen or fifteen days, but the conſequences were very near being fatal: his head-ach was increaſed to ſuch a degree, that he often wiſhed to be out of this world; his fever was now become continual; he could not ſleep; and was

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ſlept quietly for ſix hours every night; and he began to gather ſtrength again. He was now ordered to take a light nouriſhing diet, to ceaſe taking medicines for eight or ten days, and to take the air every day in a carriage, or on horſeback; and afterwards, when the effects of theſe waters were entirely removed, to take a moderate doſe of the gum pills every day, at ſeven and at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at ſix o'clock in the afternoon; together with four ſpoonfulls of a mixture, compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, of the decoction, and the tincture of the bark, of the common antimonial wine, of the powder of caſtor, and of the tincture of orange-peel; ſo that he took ten grains of the neutralized ſalt, one ounce and a half of the decoction, and one drachm of the tincture

ture of the bark, eight grains of the caſtor, one drachm of the antimonial wine, and one drachm of the tincture of orange-peel, for a doſe. By the uſe of theſe medicines, with gentle exerciſe, at the end of ſix weeks, he found his head-ach entirely removed, he ſlept well, his ſtomach and bowels were much ſtrengthened, and his appetite increaſed; and afterwards he uſed the cold-bath, by which he was radically cured.

CASE XXXIII.

Mr. C——, an Engliſh gentleman, naturally of a lax and irritable fibre, and much inclined to be bilious, after a low nervous fever, with which he was ſeized in the fortieth year of his age, and which went off very imperfectly, fell inſenſibly into a long train of nervous ſymptoms; which were alſo attended with the hæmor-

hæmorrhoids, a bilious diarrhœa, a great weakneſs of the ſtomach and bowels, indigeſtion, loſs of appetite, &c.

In this ſituation, being then in the ſouth of France, he was ordered ſome violent remedies, which reduced him to ſuch a weakneſs that it was thought he could not have ſurvived it; but by temperance, the mildneſs of the climate, and gentle exerciſe, he ſo far recovered his ſtrength, as to be able to purſue his journey to Aix la Chapelle; where he was then ordered to go, to drink theſe ſulphureous waters, upon a ſuppoſition that they were proper to remove all his diſagreeable ſymptoms. Here he was ordered, after taking ſome doſes of rhubarb and magneſia alba, to drink four glaſſes of the water of the great ſource every day; from which he found great benefit, with

with regard to his bilious complaints, but it left him in ſuch a weak and languid ſtate, as was almoſt inſupportable. His phyſician now ordered him an electary, compoſed of the powder of the Peruvian bark, of valerian, and of the ſyrup of orange-peel; but this diſagreed extremely with his conſtitution, ſometimes it purged him with great violence, and at other times it rendered him ſo coſtive, and heated him to that degree, that he was not able to ſupport it; and moreover, although this was calculated to ſtrengthen his ſtomach and bowels, and to remove the flatulencies with which he was much troubled, it ſerved only to increaſe them.

I was now called in to his aſſiſtance, and immediately ordered him a medicine, compoſed of the neutralized volatile alkali, the powder

of the beſt Ruſſia caſtor, the bitter infuſion of the London Diſpenſatory, and the tincture of orange-peel; ſo that he took fourteen grains of the neutralized ſalt, ſix of the caſtor, two ounces of the infuſion, and one drachm of the tincture, for a doſe, three times a day. He continued this medicine for four weeks, by which he received great benefit; his ſtomach and bowels were ſtrengthened; his flatulencies in a great meaſure diſappeared; his digeſtion was much mended, and all his nervous ſymptoms diminiſhed. Hereupon I ordered him a courſe of the Pyrmont water, made warm with common warm water, as is deſcribed in Caſe XVII. beginning with four five-ounce glaſſes, and increaſing theſe to ſix glaſſes of the ſame ſize every day; and it was ſurpriſing to ſee the good and ſudden effects that were

were produced by this water; after he had uſed it for ſix weeks, he found all his nervous ſymptoms were removed, the hæmorrhoids, which had afflicted him for ſeveral years diſappeared, and his ſtomach and bowels performed their natural functions as well as ever; and, after having continued this water for ten weeks, he found himſelf radically cured.

CASE XXXIV.

Mademoiſelle de C——, a young lady of Holſtein, naturally of a lax fibre, and inclined to be corpulent, was ſeized, in the twenty-fourth year of her age, with a fever, attended with a violent head-ach and pain in the ſmall of her back; which, by improper treatment, ended in a palſy of the lower extremities. Her legs

and thighs were ſo weak that when ſhe was taken out of bed ſhe could not walk, and this weakneſs increaſed gradually; ſo that at length ſhe loſt entirely their uſe, together with almoſt all the ſenſe of feeling in them. Various medicines were ordered for her relief in Holſtein, both internally and externally, but without any effect; on the contrary, the paralytic parts began to wither, and ſhe felt herſelf much inclined to a coſtiveneſs, which at length became ſo obſtinate, that ſhe could not go to ſtool without taking ſome purging medicine; and a contraction was likewiſe obſerved upon the nerves and tendons of the paralytic parts.

In this ſituation ſhe was ſent to Aix la Chapelle; and was here ordered, after taking ſome purging medi-

medicines, to bathe in the common manner every day, and to take the vapor-bath upon the parts affected twice a week, for fifteen or twenty minutes each time: but finding that this courſe raiſed little feveriſh heats, with now and then a head-ach, her phyſician ordered her bleeding and a cooling regimen; but from what motives I believe any ſenſible man will be at a loſs to diſcover: certain it is, that the good effects which might have been reaſonably expected from theſe waters, were hereby fruſtrated.

When ſhe had uſed the baths for four weeks, ſhe perceived the ſenſe of feeling to be ſomewhat increaſed in her legs and thighs, the contraction of the nerves and tendons was in a great meaſure removed, and ſhe felt a warmth in all the lower extremities.

tremities. But, as ſhe was obliged to be blooded every fortnight or three weeks, and to uſe a cooling regimen, to carry off the little feveriſh heats and head-ach which were occaſioned by the waters (and which ſhould have been prevented by ſome ſuch medicine as that which was ordered in Caſe I.) all the good effects which would undoubtedly have been produced by the waters were deſtroyed; and, although ſhe continued their uſe for ten months, ſhe received no more benefit than what is mentioned above; her prudent phyſician deſtroying with one hand what was gained by the other.

Thus, by the extreme inattention and obſtinacy of many of the practitioners of this place, who will, at all events, follow the ignorance of their fore-

forefathers, are the ſalutary effects of theſe excellent waters fruſtrated, even in thoſe caſes where much might have been expected from them; and many dangerous, and often fatal ſymptoms, are produced by their being ordered in caſes where, according to the laws of the animal body, there was no poſſibility of their being productive of any good effects, but the contrary.

For my part, I ſhall make no more reflections, the facts will ſpeak for themſelves; and ſhall therefore conclude with obſerving, that as long as I remain here, when any curious caſes occur, which may ſerve to illuſtrate this matter more effectually, I ſhall not fail to lay them before the public, to the end that every perſon, of the meaneſt capacity, may at leaſt form ſome judgment for him-

himſelf, and that mankind may not ſuffer thoſe inconveniencies from the uſe of theſe waters, which they have heretofore ſuffered.

Aix la Chapelle,
February 18th, 1774.

FINIS.